4. The National Socialistic — The Nazis — took over the government in 1933. The relation between the church & the Hitler government can best be discussed later on.

5. While German Protestantism was, on the whole, antagonistic to ~~socialistic party~~ Socialism, there were groups within the church that were not unmindful of the social needs of the people & sought to bridge the chasm which had been created.

~~masses of the people~~

The terms "conservative" and "liberal" are at best only relative; and it is difficult to classify certain ~~some~~ of the movements in the religious life of Germany. ~~But~~ This seems to be the place to speak of what is known as the Inner Mission, whose origins go back to the middle of the 19th century. The Inner Mission was a definite effort on the part of certain Christians to meet the challenge of communism and other radical social movements. The author sums up the practical situation in these ~~trenchant~~ words, "The tragedy of [communism] was that it believed in the Kingdom of God upon earth, but not in God, whereas the tragedy of the orthodox church was that it believed in God but not in his kingdom upon earth." The Inner Mission

Kingdom on earth. If we may borrow the title of Dr. E. Stanley Jones' recent book, the Inner Mission sought to be "Christ's Alternative to Communism". The Inner Mission pursued its work along three distinct but related lines — evangelization, philanthropy, and public ministry. The evangelism was not of the revivalistic type, as such met with were not approved by the Lutheran Church, but it was promoted thru preaching, evangelistic literature, musical features, etc. The program of philanthropy was by far its most extensive activity, and included welfare work among the poor, the sick, and the aged, institutions for various unfortunate classes, and a work among young people. The program of public ministry aimed at a clean press, a

campaign for legislative reforms in regard to housing, sale of alcohol, protection of the young, and other social reforms. The Inner Mission did important work as a relief agency, but, fortunately since the war, its program of legislative reform seems to have become quite unfashionable. ~~This was a fault which the state probably cannot forget.~~

~~Certain members of the original Thought-Circle, this tendency to decry the state's obligation to alleviate misery.~~

Then there was the Religious Socialists. This was a post-war movement within the church. Its followers believed that the gospel teaches the Kingdom of God is a realizable historical achievement, to which Xn people may & should devote themselves, and that socialism & the gospel are compli-

mutual values, ~~aiming~~ aiming toward the same ultimate goal. Consequently its members devoted much time + effort working for a just social + economic order. The Lutheran church as a whole, however, opposed the movement, and the pastors who supported it were regarded with suspicion.

IV. We turn now to another factor that has found its way into the old traditional German Protestantism — namely an exalted Germanism. ~~The Esthetic Cultural movement goes back well into the 19th century.~~ The Renaissance of Esthetic-Cultural Germanism goes back well into the 19th century. It is a movement among the bourgeois (boor-zhwä') which exalts "the abiding worth of the Teutonic soul, a romantic worship of racial greatness." As socialism drew many of the lower classes away from the church, so this Esthetic-Cultural movement drew numbers of the upper classes away. ~~God is identified as a racial God.~~ German culture is conceived

as the super of human attainment. god himself is a racial god. and the german people are chosen of god for the dissemination of ~~the~~ german culture. Of course the germanic blood must be maintained by any alien strains, + german culture must be purged from alien influences. The jew, particularly, has fallen under the ban, as a contaminating ~~factor~~ element in german ~~culture~~ biological and cultural life. Religion, as well as everything else, must be purged of its semetic influences. The O.T. is a Jewish book, and therefore must be discarded. Paul was a jew, + must have no place in a purely Germanic religion. Jesus ~~was~~ ~~not~~ is

to be held may have been an Aryan, therefore may be retained conditionally.

5. Since the War anti-Semitism has become almost a mania, + has assumed political significance. ~~Ever since 1920 Adolf Hitler~~ The Jew has been made the scapegoat for all of Germany's ills. Ever since 1920 adolph Hitler has been particularly active in this movement. The re-organized Reich church would bar jews from its ~~membership~~

6. This attitude has called forth an earnest protest from ~~both~~ those groups within the church who are bent on maintaining the purity of the gospel, and who insist that god has made of one blood all nations of the world, + that in Christ there is neither Greek nor Jew, but that all are

1. Another factor which is boring into german Protestantism is a form of super-Nationalism — the Totalitarian State. According to this theory the State is all, and all is The State. Everything, the press, the platforms, the educational system, the Church, exists for the service & the glory of the State. We are particularly concerned with the application of this ~~Nazi theory~~ theory to the church by the Nazi government, and the reaction of the church to that program.

2. It was evident in 1918 when the Republic succeeded the Monarchy that one weakness of the German Protestant Church was its division into 28 territorial churches, each enjoying almost complete independence of the others. In 1922

the German Evangelical Church Federation was formed. This brought the church into a somewhat closer union, but still the territorial church — the Landeskirche — remained in fact the major administrative unit, maintaining its independence of any higher church body.

3. Adolph Hitler soon evidenced his purpose to make this rather loose Federation of churches a strongly unified organization, over which there should be a Reich Bishop invested with practically absolute power. ~~The church voted this same way.~~ While the churches ~~were~~ had the right to vote for the Reich Bishop, it was well known that Hitler's choice was one Ludwig Müller, a Military Chaplain

whom he had made his personal representative in Church matters. Hitler proceeded to call a church election for the purpose of choosing the Reich Bishop. But to his chagrin the churches elected their own candidate, Pastor von Bodelschwing, who was not a Nazi. Hitler would not permit such insubordination to pass. Another election was called. This time the usual Nazi methods were more energetically employed, with the result that Chaplain Müller was elected. The tenseness of the situation is however indicated by the fact that while this election was held on July 23, 1933, Ludwig Müller was not installed as Primate of the German Protestant Church until Sept 23, 1934, more than a year later.

There is not time tonight to even sketch the interesting details of this significant conflict between church & state. The crucial points in the contest are three - (1) the exclusion of Jews from the church, & the criticism directed against the O.T.; (2) the imposition of a Reich Bishop whose authority is derived virtually from the state rather than from the church; (3) the use of forcible methods in reorganizing & disciplining the church.

While German Protestantism is willing to render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, it is not willing to render unto Caesar the things that are God's. How & when the struggle will eventually subside I cannot know. But the whole Christian world is deeply